

REMARKS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action, and the following remarks are presented for the Examiner's consideration.

Initially, Applicants note that the Examiner has not acknowledged the receipt of the certified copy of the priority document. The USPTO's Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system indicates that this document was received on October 24, 2001 and has been scanned into the image file wrapper (IFW) of the instant application. Therefore, Applicants hereby request that the Examiner acknowledge the claim for foreign priority and the receipt of certified copies of the priority document.

Turning to the rejections, claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over JP 11-355160 (hereinafter "Shibuya") in view of JP 2000022615 (hereinafter "Yoshihiro"). The Examiner has not explicitly indicated the grounds for rejecting claim 2. However, based on the detailed analysis, the grounds for rejecting claim 2 appear to be the same as that for claim 1 and, thus the rejection has been treated as such. For the following reasons, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding claim 1, neither Shibuya nor Yoshihiro, nor any combination thereof, teaches or suggests that "said variable attenuating unit adjusts the signal level of said duplicated loop signal so that an amplitude error of said duplicated loop signal is corrected." Shibuya describes a canceller that includes a subtractor (14) for subtracting a coupling loop interference signal. The canceller of Shibuya does not include a variable attenuating unit for correcting amplitude error, as in the claimed invention. Yoshihiro teaches a variable attenuator (12). However, neither Shibuya nor Yoshihiro teaches or suggests using the variable attenuator to correct amplitude error in a loop signal. Moreover, neither cited reference recognizes the problem of amplitude error in a loop signal, or teaches or suggests correcting it. Since every limitation of the claim is not taught or suggested by the combination of references, claim 1 is patentable over the prior art of record.

Regarding claim 2, neither Shibuya nor Yoshihiro, nor any combination thereof, teaches or suggests that "said variable phase shifting unit adjusts the phase of said duplicated loop signal so that

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a phase error of said duplicated loop signal is corrected.” Shibuya describes canceller that includes a subtractor (14) for subtracting a coupling loop interference signal. The canceller of Shibuya does not include a variable phase shifting unit for correcting phase error of the coupling loop interference signal, as in the claimed invention. Yoshihiro teaches a variable phase control unit (11). However, neither Shibuya nor Yoshihiro teaches or suggests using the variable phase shifting unit to correct phase error in a loop signal. Moreover, neither cited reference recognizes the problem of phase error in a loop signal, or teaches or suggests correcting it. Since every limitation of the claim is not taught or suggested by the combination of references, claim 2 is patentable over the prior art of record.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 34109.

Respectfully submitted,

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